

Winter Storm Jonas, anticipated January 22-24, 2016

With much of the state expected to receive significant snow and/or rain and flooding in the coming days from Winter Storm Jonas, DEP is providing the following information to assist towns and counties with their storm preparation and response activities.

BEACHES

Any town that has a beach and dune maintenance permit may manipulate sand in accordance with their permit. However, towns that have a USACE-engineered beach <u>must not</u> manipulate sand on their beaches unless they can demonstrate to DEP's Bureau of Coastal Engineering that the beach and dune system has eroded below the engineered design template. If you have a USACE-engineered beach and think you want to move sand, you must contact Coastal Engineering Bureau Chief Bill Dixon at (732) 255-0770 to seek approval.

STORMWATER

Road crews are advised to make sure storm drains are clear to allow for drainage of meltwater.

COMBINED SEWER OUTFALLS (CSOs)

Operators of CSOs are advised to keep those outfalls clear to ensure proper drainage.

SNOW REMOVAL

You can keep roadways and neighborhoods as safe and clear as possible while protecting the environment both during and after the storm. DEP reminds governments to select snow disposal sites on upland areas, as far as possible from water bodies and wetlands to protect these ecologically sensitive areas as much as possible from road salt and other potential contaminants.

If governments have no other option due to the volume of the snow and public safety needs, DEP will consider authorizing disposal of snow in certain larger waterways in emergency situations and on a case-by-case basis only. Such exceptions must be approved by DEP first. Factors to be considered would include the size of the water body, presence of environmentally sensitive areas, flow of the waterway, the resulting amount of floating ice or snow, impact on downstream dams, and impact on channels being blocked.

Authorizations to place snow into surface waters can be requested by contacting the DEP Hotline at **1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337)**. Authorizations will be restricted to municipalities and counties for this specific event only. This option is not available to private businesses or residents. For more information on snow removal guidelines and state policy on snow removal, visit http://www.nj.gov/dep/snowremoval.html

PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES

The State Park Service is implementing its emergency operations plan in anticipation of significant snowfall and high winds. Parks will be closed <u>if</u> conditions warrant. In the event of a park closure, campers will be advised to leave.

Maintenance crews will keep critical areas open. Clearing for recreational activities such as skiing and hunting will be addressed as soon as conditions permit.

For more information on State Parks and Forests, including any available park-specific advisories, please visit http://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests/

SITE REMEDIATION

In anticipation of the weather event, those responsible for contaminated sites should evaluate any remediation cases for which they are responsible to ensure that they are as ready as practicable for this storm.

This includes securing the site for anticipated large accumulations of snow, coastal flooding, high winds possibly gusting to 40 mph, roadway flooding, and possible loss of power to remediation systems.

Whether you are the person responsible for conducting the remediation or the Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) retained, all efforts should be made to prevent new discharges at your site and to maintain active remediation systems. Any discharges of hazardous substances are required to be reported to the DEP Hotline at 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337).

Subsequent to the storm, all sites should be re-evaluated to determine if any immediate environmental concerns needing action arose and whether site conditions changed, requiring re-evaluation of impacts to receptors.

For topic-specific questions regarding site remediation, please refer to the SRP contact list, available at http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/srra/srra contacts.htm

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

New Jersey Office of Emergency Management: http://www.state.nj.us/njoem/

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities: http://www.state.nj.us/bpu/

National Weather Service: http://www.weather.gov/phi/

New Jersey Department of Health: http://www.state.nj.us/health/

New Jersey Department of Transportation: http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/

###